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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT 1. Resettlement of Caucasian and Crimean National Groups (1943-1944) 2. Suppression of Resistance Movement in Lithuania (1944-1951)

DATE OF INFORMATION

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Resettlement of Caucasian and Crimean National Groups

1. The official reasons given to NKVD troops participating in the resettlement in 1943 and 1944 of Caucasian and Crimean national groups to Siberia and Middle Asia were the treacherous attitude of these national minorities (both authorities and people) towards the Soviet Union and their collaboration with the Germans during World War II.

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[redacted] the majority of NKVD personnel who participated in this action thought the accusations were true.

2. The following NKVD elements participated in the Caucasian and Crimean operations: border troops, interior troops, convoy troops, special purpose troops such as the First Special Purpose Separate Moscow Infantry Division (Pervaya otdel'naya Moskovskaya strelkovaya diviziya osobogo naznacheniya), territorial NKVD organs from the RSFSR, and probably several regular Soviet Army units. In the organization of railroad transports and railroad escort service, the railway NKVD troops (zheleznodorozhnye voyska) also participated. All NKVD troops participating in the operations had been disguised in regular Army uniform. The resettlement operation in the Caucasus region was supervised by Col. Gen. SEROV, who at that time was Deputy People's Commissar of the Interior (NKVD), USSR. KOBULOV, who at that time was People's Commissar of the State Security (NKGB), exercised over-all supervision of the resettlement operation in the Crimea.

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Gen. SEROV was present in Crimea with KOBULOV when the operation was carried out.

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4. In the Caucasian and Crimean operations, authority and control was exercised by NKVD and NKGB, USSR, in Moscow. Republics and oblast NKVD and NKGB organs did not participate. Indigenous members of NKVD and NKGB republic and oblast headquarters were also deported with their national groups.

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#### Suppression of Resistance Movement in Lithuania, 1944-1951

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By July 1944 when the 95th Border Detachment was transported from the Crimea to Lithuania to restore order, the resistance movement had spread throughout Lithuania. The same thing had happened in other Baltic countries, the western Ukraine, western Byelo-Russia, and, to a lesser extent, in Moldavia.

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The following NKVD elements participated in the suppression of Lithuanian resistance:

- a. Border troops
- b. Interior NKVD troops
- c. NKVD Special Purpose Troops, such as:
  - (1) First Special Purpose Separate Moscow Infantry Division
  - (2) Second NKVD Division (Vtoraya diviziya osobogo naznacheniya voysk NKVD) under the command of Gen. VETROV. This division was eventually transferred to MGB.
- d. NKVD militia units
- e. Regular Soviet Army troops

7. Direct authority and supervision of the Lithuanian operation in the initial phase was exercised by the People's Commissar of the Interior (NKVD) of the Lithuanian SSR, BARTASHUNAS. However, since results were rather poor, the Deputy People's Commissar of the Interior, USSR, KRUGLOV, was sent in September 1944 to Lithuania to organize and to direct the operation.

At the same time there was organized at the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Lithuanian SSR, a special body called Organizational Bureau (OrgByuro) subordinate directly to the Central Committee Communist Party, USSR, and charged with the overall responsibility and top level supervision of the operation. The head of the OrgByuro was SUSLOV, who at that time was a member of the Central Committee VKP(b), and presently is Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Directives of the OrgByuro were forwarded through the Central Committee of the Communist Party, Lithuanian SSR, to BARTASHUNAS, who was still entrusted with

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direct authority and supervision of the operation. Several high-ranking NKVD, USSR officials were permanently attached to BARTASHUNAS as "advisors". In contrast with the Caucasian and Crimean operations, in Lithuania oblast and rayon (at that time referred to as 'Princ'volost' and 'uyezd') NKVD headquarters were fully utilized. Principally they collected information on partisan movements and transmitted it to the responsible NKVD troop commander. For this purpose the entire territory of the Lithuanian SSR was divided into several operational sectors. NKVD and other military units were assigned to each sector, and a high-ranking NKVD (or military) authority was appointed sector Nachal'nik; all troops stationed on the sector territory were subordinate to such a Nachal'nik. The information collected by regional NKVD elements was forwarded to the responsible sector Nachal'nik for his action and the use of his subordinate troops.

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